

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

FEB. 2, 2004

JOHN F. CONNOR, CLERK  
BY: *J. C. Left*  
DEPUTY CLERK

IN RE: FILING AND PROCESSING )  
PRISONER CIVIL RIGHTS CASES )  
AND PETITIONS FOR WRITS OF )  
HABEAS CORPUS )

STANDING ORDER OF REFERENCE

In furtherance of a more centralized system for processing prisoner civil rights cases and petitions for writs of habeas corpus, it is now ORDERED that all such cases will be routinely referred to United States Magistrate Judge Michael F. Urbanski for purposes of consideration and ruling as to any and all nondispositive, pretrial matter and motions as may arise. This order is entered under the authority of 28 USC §636(b) (1) (A), and the provisions set forth thereunder shall govern the magistrate judge's conduct and scope of authority.

For purposes of the Order, the terms prisoner civil rights cases and petitions for writs of habeas corpus shall be deemed to include the following:

- a. Civil rights complaints filed pursuant to 42 USC §1983;
- b. Civil rights complaints filed pursuant to 28 USC §1331 (Bivens Actions);
- c. Habeas corpus petitions filed pursuant to 28 USC §2241 (federal habeas);
- d. Habeas corpus petitions filed pursuant to 28 USC §2254 (state habeas);
- e. Habeas corpus petitions filed pursuant to 28 USC §2255 (federal habeas).

This Standing Order supercedes all prior orders of reference in prisoner civil rights cases and petitions for writs of habeas corpus entered by this court.

The clerk is directed to enter this Standing Order in the order book for each division of this court and to associate a copy of this Order with filings as outlined above to all parties in all cases.

ENTER: This 2nd day of Feb., 2004.

FOR THE COURT:

*[Signature]*  
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Samuel G. Wilson  
Chief U.S. District Judge